

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-07 OIC-02 IGA-01 /094 W

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R 211233Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC 8056

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 14633

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SEATO TH

SUBJ: THAI VIEW ON SEATO

REF: BANGKOK 14482

1. AN EMBASSY OFFICER ESCORTED DR. BAYLESS MANNING, PRESIDENT, COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOR A JULY 18 CALL ON KOSON SINTHAWANON, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. KOSON SAID THE FOLLOWING: THAILAND WISHES VERY MUCH TO SEE BOTH SEATO AND THAI MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION CONTINUE. WERE THAILAND TO BREAK WITH SEATO SO SOON AFTER KHUKRIT'S VISIT TO PEKING AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA AND OTHER RECENT EVENTS, OBSERVERS WOULD SAY THAT THAILAND HAS SHIFTED ITS HINTHERTO FRIENDLY FOREIGN POLICY DRAMATICALLY. THAILAND DOES NOT WANT TO CONVEY SUCH SIGNALS.

2. KOSON NOTED THAT, IN DISCUSSIONS THE THAI HAVE HAD WITH PEKING, HANOI, AND SAIGON, THE COMMUNIST AUTHORITIES HAVE NEVER RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THAILAND'S LINK TO SEATO. WHY, THEN, DOES PRESIDENT MARCOS BELIEVE THE PHILIPPINES MUST
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BREAK WITH SEATO IN ORDER TO BE NON-ALIGNED? THIS IS NOT THE

PATH THAAT THAILAND IS GOING TO TAKE, KOSON CONCLUDED, REQUESTING
THAT THIS MESSAGE BE TRANSMITTED TO THE USG.

3. COMMENT. KOSON'S POSITION IS A MORE FORCEFUL EXPLANATION
OF THE RTG VIEW IN PARALRAPH 2 OF REFTEL. THE THAI OPPOSE
SEATO'S IMMEDIATE DISSOLUTION.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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To: STATE
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